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5. (Amended) A recombinant host cell transfected with the recombinant DNA molecule of Claim 4.

Please cancel Claim 7.

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8. (Amended) An isolated and purified DNA molecule that hybridizes to the DNA sequence shown in SEQ ID 3 under high stringency hybridization conditions wherein said conditions comprise washing in 1% SDS, 20mM phosphate buffer and 1mM EDTA at 65°C following hybridization.

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- 10. (Amended) A recombinant DNA molecule comprising the isolated and purified DNA sequence of Claim 8 or 9 subcloned into an extra-chromosomal vector.
- 11. (Amended) A recombinant host cell transfected with the recombinant DNA molecule of Claim 10.

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17. (Amended) A recombinant host cell transfected with a recombinant DNA molecule of Claim 16.

Please cancel claims 18-24

25. (Amended) A diagnostic assay for detecting cells containing mutations in a gene lencoding a redox-sensitive protein that protects cells from apoptosis, comprising isolating total genomic DNA from the cell and subjecting the genomic DNA to PCR amplification using primers having a sequence comprised by the DNA sequence of Claim 2, 3, 8, 9, or 15, and determining whether the resulting PCR product contains a mutation.

Please cancel claims 27-31

09/509,779

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26. (Amended) A diagnostic assay for detecting cells containing mutations in a gene encoding a redox-sensitive protein that protects cells from apoptosis, comprising isolating total cell RNA, subjecting the RNA to reverse transcription-PCR amplification using primers having a sequence comprised by the DNA sequence of Claim 2, 3, 8, 9, or 15 and determining whether the resulting PCR product contains a mutation.

- 32. (Amended) A method for purifying a protein from bacterial cells comprising:
- a) transfecting a bacterial host cell with a vector comprising the isolated and purified DNA sequence of Claim 2, 3, 8, 9, or 15 operatively linked to a promoter capable of directing gene expression in a bacterial host cell;
- b) inducing expression of the isolated and purified DNA sequence in the bacterial cells;
 - c) lysing the bacterial cells;
 - d) isolating bacterial/inclusion bodies;
- e) purifying from the isolated inclusion bodies a protein having an amino acid sequences encoded by said DNA sequence.

Please cancel claims 33-37.

Please add New claims 38 to 40 as follows:

-38. An isolated and purified DNA sequence encoding a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID 12, SEQ ID 14, SEQ ID 22, SEQ ID 24, SEQ ID 26, SEQ ID 28, SEQ ID 30, SEQ ID 32, SEQ ID 34, SEQ ID 36, SEQ ID 38, SEQ ID 40, SEQ ID 42, SEQ ID 44, SEQ ID 46, SEQ ID 48, and SEQ ID 50.

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39. The DNA molecule of claim 2, wherein said molecule encodes a polypeptide that protects a cell from apoptosis when produced in said cell.

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40. The DNA molecule of claim 2, wherein said molecule encodes a polypeptide that protects against lipid peroxidation.—